

Amendments to the Claims:

1. (currently amended) A process for the microbacterial production of amino acids, comprising the steps of: providing a microbial organism having a certain export carrier activity and a certain export gene-expression,

increasing, selectively, one of

the export carrier activity of said microbial organism specific for a particular amino acid with an amino acid sequence as given in SEQ ID NO: 2 in accordance with the export carrier activity endogenous to said microbial organism,

and the export gene expression of said microbial organism specific for a particular amino acid with a nucleotide sequence of nucleotide 1016 to 1726 according to SEQ ID NO: 1 in accordance with the export gene expression endogenous to said microbial organism by means of one of the steps selected from the group of:

i) ~~mutating the export carrier gene, such that an export carrier with increased export activity is generated,~~

ii) i) increasing the number of gene copies of the export carrier gene,

iii) ii) modifying regulatory signals assigned to the export gene, and

iv) iii) amplifying regulatory signals assigned to the export gene,

whereby amino acids are produced by said microbial organism with increased efficiency, and

v) iv) recovering the amino acids from the culture.

2. (canceled)

3. (canceled)

4. (previously amended) A process according to claim 1, wherein the export gene expression of the export carrier is increased by increasing the number of gene copies, whereby the export carrier gene is expressed from the additional gene copies.

5. (original) A process according to claim 4, wherein, in order to increase the number of copies, the export gene is installed in a gene construct.

6. (original) A process according to claim 5, wherein the export gene is installed in a vector with a low number of copies.

7. (previously amended) A process according to claim 5, wherein the export gene is installed in a gene construct, which includes regulatory gene sequences operably linked to the export gene.

8. (previously amended) A process according to claim 7, wherein the regulatory gene sequence includes a nucleotide sequence coding for the amino acid sequence as given in SEQ ID NO: 3 form nucleotide 1421-2293.

9. (previously canceled)

10. (previously amended) A process according to claim 5, wherein a microorganism producing the respective amino acid is transformed with the gene construct including the export gene.

11. (original) A process according to claim 10, wherein a microorganism of the type *Corynebacterium* is transformed with the gene construct including the export gene.

12. (previously amended) A process according to claim 10, wherein, for the transformation, a microorganism is utilized in which the enzymes which participate in the synthesis of the corresponding amino acids are deregulated.

13. (previously amended) A process according to claim 10, wherein, for the transformation, a microorganism is utilized which contains an increased amount of the metabolites of the central metabolism.

14. (previously amended) A process according to claim 4, wherein the export gene is isolated from a microorganism strain of the type *Corynebacterium*.

15. (canceled)

16. (canceled)

17. (previously amended) A process according to claim 1, wherein the export gene expression is increased by amplifying the transcription signals.

18. (canceled)

19. (canceled)

20. (original) A process according to claim 1 for the manufacture of L-lysine.

21 - 42 (previously canceled)

43. (previously amended) A process for the increased microbial production of amino acids using an export gene, comprising the steps of:

- i) constructing a gene construct including an export carrier gene,
- ii) inserting said construct into a suitable vector,
- iii) transforming a suitable host cell with said vector,
- iv) cultivating said transformed host cell in a culture medium,
- v) recovering the amino acid from the culture, and
- vi) determining the desired amino acid amount.

44. (previously canceled)

45. (previously canceled)

46. (previously amended) A process according to claim 43, wherein the gene construct additionally carries regulatory gene sequences.

47. (previously amended) A process according to claim 43, wherein an export gene from *Corynebacterium* is utilized.

48. (previously amended) A process according to claim 43, wherein *Corynebacterium* is used as amino acid producing microorganism.